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By 57/VSW Date 2/20/98

Department of State

TELEGRAM DEF 19-8 US-PAK

xx POL PAK-US 18 JUN 70 22 207

INDICATE:

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ACTION: Amembassy RAWALPINDI

XX
LONDON

STATE 096236

~~NORIS~~

FOR AMBASSADOR FARLAND

SUBJECT: Military Supply: Arms for Pakistan

~~IMMEDIATE~~

ENODIS REVIEW

Cat. A - Caption removed;
transferred to O/FADN
Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADN
with additional access
controlled by S/S
Cat. C - Caption and custody
retained by S/S

Reviewed by: Ambassador W. Witman, D
Date: 1975

1. You should seek appointment ASAP with President
if Yahya unavailable)
Yahya (or with Foreign Secretary/~~whichever you consider~~
~~more appropriate~~) and deliver following oral message:

QUOTE: President Nixon has very much appreciated patience President Yahya has shown in connection with protracted review our military supply policy. Our deliberations have taken longer than anticipated and have involved number of difficult considerations, including current ^{situation} ~~atmosphere~~ within US Congress. Despite these problems, President has tried to be as responsive as possible to Pakistan's needs in keeping with his assurance to President Yahya in Lahore that he would see what

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NEA:CVanHollen:atm

DRAFTING DATE

6/17/70

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21030

APPROVED BY:

The Secretary

CLEARANCES:

DOD/ISA - Mr. Pranger

NEA - Mr. Sisco

PM - Mr. Chapman

H - Mr. Abshin ¹¹cent

NEA/PAF - Mr. Spengler

WHITE HOUSE - Mr. Saunders

S/S - Mr. Brown

~~SECRET/NOFORN~~

Classification

DECLASSIFIED
PA/HO, Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
June 9, 2005

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By ST/VSW Date 2/20/78
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could be done to be helpful.

We are now pleased to be able to inform GOP that, within framework of our existing policy but on special exception basis, US will be prepared to sell Pakistan certain military items which Pakistani military authorities have requested from us.

Before conveying this information formally by letter to President Yahya, we consider it necessary to consult with the Congress. However, because of very difficult situation in Congress at present, we believe it prudent defer ^{formal} consultation until after conclusion of current debate on Cooper-Church amendment and Foreign Military Sales Bill.

In addition to offer of sale of items in US "lethal weapons" category, US military authorities have been asked to act promptly on Pakistan's recent requests to purchase variety of non-lethal items such as helicopters, light aircraft, transport aircraft, jeeps and trucks. We

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believe we will be able to move quickly on these items.

END QUOTE.

2. You should then say that USG prepared sell following military equipment which Pakistani military authorities have requested from us: (a) six F-104A replacement fighter interceptor aircraft or, as alternative, 12 interceptor aircraft of different model (e.g., F-104G's or F-5's) on understanding Pakistan will transfer its present six F-104A's; (b) three hundred armored personnel carriers; (c) four maritime patrol aircraft; (d) seven B-57 replacement bombers.

3. After conveying arms package offer, you should avoid getting into detailed discussion of military equipment and instead say that, following Congressional consultation, further details can be worked out between Pakistani and US military representatives. However, during conversation you should explicitly convey following points:

A. US offer represents one-time exception to present

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policy. This point could be made by calling attention to
portion of oral message stating that current sales offer
is "within framework of our existing policy but on a special
exception basis". ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~while~~
~~that special exception has been made for Pakistan. This~~
~~basic policy remains unchanged.~~

B. We would anticipate that items offered for sale
would be paid for on usual cash basis.

~~XX~~
~~preventing the diversion of resources from development~~
~~many purposes and the intensification of arms race~~
~~XXXXXX~~

CD. It is essential that GOP treat information re US
arms offer with utmost secrecy. Any premature leaks could
seriously jeopardize our Congressional consultations and
ability to proceed.

DE. At later date, we will wish to inform Indian
Government in general terms of our decision offer to sell

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certain arms to Pakistan on special exception basis, asking GOI not to divulge information publicly.

4. If asked about Pakistani tank request, you should say that tanks were carefully considered. However, proposed Turkey-Pakistan transaction has stirred up considerable controversy in Congress leading to recent introduction of Mansfield amendment which would prevent third country sales. Because of adverse Congressional sentiment on general issue of tanks, it was not considered feasible to offer Pakistan direct sale of tanks.

5. We cannot emphasize too strongly importance of urging Yahya to hold this information with utmost secrecy within GOP and avoid any leaks which might endanger project. For this reason, we would prefer you try to see Yahya alone.

6. Immediately following message contains background information FYI.

END

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